congestion and increased road safety. Feasibility studies have been initiated in cities like Delhi and Hyderabad for using the BRT system.

Forest Land

†4690. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) national average of forest land in the country;

(b) the percentageof geographical area of Chhattisgarh State covered with forest; and

(c) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government for compensating expenditure being incurred on maintenance of forest area of the State having more forest area than the national average?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the State of Forest Report, 2001 published by the Forest Survey of India, the national average of recorded forest area in the country is 23.38% and forest cover is 2055%.

(b) The percentage of geographical area of Chhattisgarh State covered with forest is 41.75% as per the State of Forest Report, 2001.

(c) In response to the representations made by various States, the Twelfth Finance Commission has recommended a grant of Rs. 1000 crores to the States for maintenance of forests. This amount has been distributed among the States based on their forest area and is required to be spent for preservation of forest wealth. The state-wise and year-wise details of this grant are enclosed as statement.

Statement

State-wise & Year-wise details the Grants-in-aid for maintenance of forests

(Rs. in crore)

S No.	State	20054)6	2006-07	2007-08	20084)9	2009-10	2005-10
1	Andhra Pradesh	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	65.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	20.00	20.00	20.00	'20.00	20.00	100.00
3	Assam	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	40.00
4	Bihar	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	5.00
5	Chhattisgam	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	85.00

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

No. State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2005-10
6 Goa	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	3.00
7 Gujarat	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
8Haryana	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	2.00
9 Himachal Pradesh	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
10 Jammu & Kashmir	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
11 Jharkhand	'6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
12 Karnataka	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	55.00
13 Kerala	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
14 Madhya Pradesh	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	115.00
15 Maharashtra	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	70.00
16 Manipur	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
17 Meghalaya	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
18 Mizoram	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
19 Nagaiand	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25 00
20 Orissa	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	75.00
21 Punjab	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	2.00
22 Rajasthan	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
23Sikkim	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	8.00
24 Tamil Nadu	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
25 Tripura	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	15.00
26 Uttar Pradesh	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
27 Uttaranchal	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	35.00
28 West Bengal	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	15.00
TOTAL	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	1000.00

Amendment of Forest Conservation Act, 1980

4691. SHR1 SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have formulated any scheme to amend the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 to settle/allot post 1978 non-tribal of 4000 forest encroachers families in the reserved forest area in Andaman District.